

July 17, 1999
Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
FDA
5030 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Md 20852

9427 '99 JUL 28 A10:54

Dear Sirs:

I am writing as a concerned citizen to express my opposition to the proposed sale of irradiated food without labeling which states explicitly that the food has been irradiated.

Such proper labeling is a necessity. We want to know what we're eating and what has happened to it. Consumers have the right to know what they are spending their money on, what processes it has undergone, and what companies have been involved in the production. It is a matter of a basic right to know.

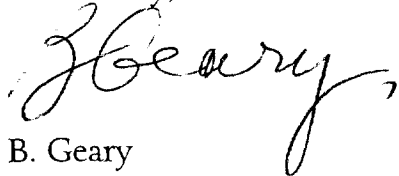
That the issue here is the very food we eat makes the right an even stronger one. From the outcry a few years ago about the labeling of organic food I thought the FDA must have become aware that the American public wants to be told where its food is coming from.

Personally I have reservations also about the drawbacks of irradiating food. Perhaps it will cause chemical changes in the food. I know it will cause additional problems in the ways that the nuclear industry always causes problems -e.g., probably radiation exposure to workers and the public, with callous coverups.

I suspect that the food industry, including our local supermarkets, will find they have lots of headaches from this proposal.

In my opinion, it would be very high-handed of the FDA to approve this proposal. The FDA's first obligation is to the public's right to know, not to the nuclear industry's hush-up.

Yours truly,



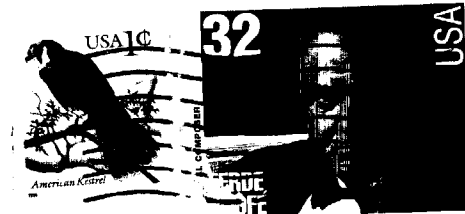
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